

Message Text

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TO USMISSION OECD PARIS PRIORITY

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TAGS: EIND, OECD

SUBJECT: INDUSTRY COMMITTEE WORKING PARTY MEETING ON
ALUMINUM, FEBRUARY 6-7

REF: DIE/IND/74.58

1. AS NOTED REFD0C, PRIMARY PURPOSE OF WP MEETING IS TO
CONSIDER GENERAL TERMS OF REFERENCE GIVEN BY INDUSTRY
COMMITTEE AND TAILOR THEM TO THE SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS OF
AN ALUMINUM STUDY WHICH IS USEFUL TO GOVERNMENTS AND
INDUSTRY. AS NOTED IN INSTRUCTIONS FOR OTHER SECTORAL
WORKING PARTIES, WE ARE SEEKING MOST CONSTRUCTIVE RESULT
FOR CONSIDERATION BY MARCH INDUSTRY COMMITTEE MEETING.
SINCE WP EFFORT MUST BE DONE WITHOUT BENEFIT OF
SECRETARIAT DRAFT TO FOCUS DISCUSSION ON SPECIFIC ITEMS,
MISSION SHOULD BE GUIDED BY FOLLOWING GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS.
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AD REF APPROVAL TO TERMS OF REF FOR INDUSTRY COMMITTEE
CONSIDERATION MAYBE GIVEN IF RESULT APPEARS SATISFACTORY
AND IS WITHIN THESE GENERAL GUIDELINES.

2. POINTS (A) THROUGH (E) IN REF DOC SHOULD BE ARRANGED IN
PRIORITY FASHION FOR THIS PARTICULAR SECTOR SO MOST IMPORT-
ANT ASPECTS CAN BE TREATED WITHIN A LIMITED AND FIXED
PERIOD OF TIME. US WOULD LIKE TO SEE WORK COMPLETED IN

REASONABLE PERIOD AND IN NO CASE TO EXTEND BEYOND ONE
YEAR, AFTER WHICH THE GROUP'S MANDATE SHOULD AUTOMATICALLY
EXPIRE.

3. THE AVAILABILITY OF ENERGY/RAW MATERIALS (ITEM A) AND
THE IMPACT OF INFLATION (ITEM B) ARE OF MAJOR SIGNIFICANCE
TO THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ALUMINUM INDUSTRY.
THEREFORE, GREATEST PRIORITY OF WORKING PARTY SHOULD BE
ASSIGNED TO THESE TWO SUBJECTS.

4. FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS PROVIDED BY WAY OF BACKGROUND
ON THESE TWO SUBJECTS. (I) SIGNIFICANT NEW DEPOSITS OF
BAUXITE HAVE BEEN RECENTLY DISCOVERED AND ARE
LOCATED IN COUNTRIES NOT FORMERLY SUPPLIERS OF BAUXITE
(E.G. BRAZIL & INDONESIA) AND WILL HAVE AN IMPORTANT
BEARING ON THE AVAILABILITY AND PRICE OF FUTURE SUPPLIES
OF BAUXITE. (II) INFLATIONARY COSTS OF ENERGY MAY
HAVE GREATER IMPACT ON OTHER COUNTRIES THAN THE US IN THE
PRODUCTION OF PRIMARY ALUMINUM. JAPAN IN PARTICULAR IS
LARGELY DEPENDENT ON OIL TO PRODUCE ELECTRICAL POWER,
WHEREAS IN THE US ONLY 2 OF THE ENERGY REQUIRED FOR POWER
TO PRODUCE PRIMARY METAL IS DEPENDENT ON OIL. OECD DATA
ON THESE SOURCES MIGHT BE USEFUL ELEMENT OF STUDY.

5. THE POSSIBILITY OF SUBSTITUTION AND RECYCLING (ITEMS
(C) AND (D) OF REF DOC) ARE SIGNIFICANT AREAS WHICH COULD
ALSO BE INCLUDED IN THE STUDY. BOTH INDUSTRY AND GOVERN-
MENT HAVE BEEN ACTIVELY ENGAGED IN PROGRAMS IN THESE AREAS.
WE EXPECT THAT FURTHER EMPHASIS WILL BE GIVEN IN US TO
ACCELERATE WORK IN THIS AREA.

6. ITEM (E) OF THE TERMS OF REFERENCE, DEALING WITH
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RELATIONS BETWEEN COUNTRIES AT DIFFERENT STAGES OF DEVELOP-
MENT, SHOULD BE GIVEN LOWER PRIORITY. THE IMPACT OF ACTIONS
BY MANY OF THE BAUXITE PRODUCING NATIONS COULD ADEQUATBLY
BE COVERED IN SECTIONS (A) AND (B) DEALING WITH CHANGING
PATTERNS OF SUPPLY AND PRICES. KISSINGER

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